

Message Text

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43

ACTION DLOS-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 L-03 OES-03 EB-07 COME-00 OFA-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 FMC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 CG-00

PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 INT-05 /046 W

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R 242155Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5577

C O N F I D E N T I A L PANAMA 6564

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS, IATTC, PLOS, PN

SUBJECT: ENFORCEMENT OF IATTC CONSERVATION MEASURES AND NEW YORK
TUNA MEETING

REF: (A) PANAMA 6305 (B) STATE 251235

1. FOLLOWING REPORTED TO ECON/COM COUNSELOR OCTOBER 23 BY
PANA ANGEL KOURUKLIS B, DIRECTOR CONSULAR AND SHIPPING
DIRECTORATE, MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND TREASURY:

2. ACCORDING DIRECTORATE'S RECORDS, MORE THAN 300 FOREIGN
OWNED VESSELS UNDER PANAMANIAN REGISTRY WILL BE AFFECTED BY
GOP'S DECISION TO WITHDRAW PANAMANIAN FLAG-PRIVILEGES
(REFTEL). THE 13 TUNA VESSELS (REFTEL) OFTEN MENTIONED BY GOP
CONCERNED OFFICIALS ARE THOSE FISHING IN THE PACIFIC AREA OF
U.S., MEXICO, COSTA RICA AND PERU. THIS MEANS CONSIDERABLE LOSS
OF REVENUE FOR GOP AND MINISTER OF FINANCE AND TREASURY SANCHIZ
QUITE WORRIED. APPARENTLY, GENERAL TORRIJOS HAD NOT REALIZED THE
CONSEQUENCES OF HIS DECISION.

3. FYI. KOURUKLIS CONFIDED HE WAS LEAVING GOVERNMENT SERVICE
BECAUSE OF HIS REMOVAL FROM OFFICE BY TORRIJIS. HE WAS UNABLE
TO PINPOINT REASONS, BUT BELIEVED HE MUST HAVE DISPLEASED THE
GENERAL BY NOT EXPEDITING IRREGULAR SHIP REGISTRATION
FORMALITIES OF SEVERAL OF THE GENERAL'S FRIENDS. ON THIS OCCASION
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HE PROVIDED PHOTOSTAT OF GEN. TORRIJOS' INSTRUCTION DATED

OCTOBER 10, 1975 REGARDING WITHDRAWAL OF PANAMA FLAG PRIVILEGES
FROM FOREIGN TUNA VESSELS. COPY BEING FORWARDED TO DEPARTMENT.
REPORTEDLY THE PANAMANIAN CONSUL IN SAN FRANCISCO REPLACING HIM.

4. IN THE MEANTIME, EMBASSY WILL DISCREETLY APPROACH OTHER GOP
OFFICIALS TO ASCERTAIN VERACITY KOURKULIS REPORT.

5. WITH REGARD TO REF B, MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRIES
WILL PROVIDE LISTING OF GOP REPRESENTATION SHORTLY.
JORDEN

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Message Attributes

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